

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea/China/USSR

DATE DIED 14 SEP 51

SUBJECT Movement of North Korean Troops and Officials

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

25X1

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. In early 1951, it was rumored in North Korea that various high-ranking military and civilian officials were out of favor with KIM Il-sung and the North Korean government and had been imprisoned or executed. Actually, these rumors were circulated to conceal the fact that these leaders had been sent to the USSR to work with and under the Soviet Military Committee (SMC). Among persons believed to be in the USSR in mid-June were CH'OE Yong-kon, chief of staff of the North Korean Army, and a division commander of the North Korean Tank Corps, both of whom had been named in Pyongyang rumors as shot by KIM Il-sung.

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2. As of mid-June, North Korean organized troops totaled approximately 150,000 men. About 20 percent are veterans; the rest are recent North Korean conscripts or Republic of Korea citizens conscripted or captured and reintegrated.

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3. About 26 May, approximately 300 new North Korean officers were assigned to various army units. These men had been specially chosen from the ranks in November 1950 and sent to Tungkua for three months' training. Additional personnel are being trained in each three-month period.

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4. During May, North Korean officers and officials in the Pyongyang area made frequent official trips by train via Antung and Kikin to Ch'ongjin. The Manchurian railroads were in good condition, and the trip required only two days.

Document No. 016
 No Change in Class. ☒
☐ Declassified
 Class. Change To: TS S S
 Auth: HQ TNA
 Date: 17 Oct 78

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